YOU'VE GOT TO GET DOWN TO BRAZIL

IT'S A TOP TRAVEL DESTINATION FOR 2014. PAGE 18

metro
PHILADELPHIA'S #1 DAILY NEWSPAPER
Tuesday, January 14, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly

Same-sex couple demands state recognize their marriage

Not legal here. The couple were legally married in Massachusetts nine years ago and now live in Philadelphia where they are considered unwed. **Motion filed.** They called for a summary judgment, saying the Supreme Court has found gay marriage constitutional. PAGE 04

Snow temporarily sidelines SEPTA cars

PAGE 02

A year's worth of subway reading

PAGE 16

They will, they will rock you

PAGE 15

The cast of "We Will Rock You" feel the music of Queen differently than actors in most jukebox musicals. / QUEEN PRODUCTIONS LTD.

Parenting: How we met this mother

PAGE 21

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1 NEWS

Top 3

What's trending at Metro.us

1 'Watch: The first "Game of Thrones" Season 4 trailer is out'

2 'VIDEO: Watch the first two episodes of "Girls" Season 3 on YouTube'

3 'VIDEO: "Price is Right" contestant accidentally tackles announcer'

Local tweet

"I wont lie, I'm sat in the bath purely to try and warm up a bit... Haven't been properly warm since I got out of bes this morning :/ xxx"

Um, @SparklyCharXxx, go outside.

Snowball effect: SEPTA cars crippled by winter

Back on track. About 50 cars needed repairs after the latest snowstorm; full capacity should be returned this week.

The air may have warmed up but SEPTA is still dealing with residual effects from the recent snowstorm and freezing temperatures that saw about 50 Regional Rail cars out of commission and many delays.

With relatively mild winters the last two years, SEPTA hasn't had to deal with these issues but snowstorms that drop fluffy snow — and several inches of it — wreak havoc on traction motors.

"The biggest impact is on our equipment," said Joe Casey, SEPTA general manager. "Some of it doesn't materialize until a couple of days after."

Because of the snowfall, temperatures and wind, the traction motors — what moves the axles — short out. The last two weeks, more than 50 cars were taken off the tracks for repairs. And that's a big impact on SEPTA's budget.

Quoted

"I think [riders] understand it but I think they expect to be communicated with, and that's really what we have to concentrate on."

Casey

"Any time it snows," Casey said, "it has a significant financial impact."

But the group seems to be back on track so to speak. Mechanics have been working overtime, Casey said, to recover.

Once the old Regional Rail Silverliner IV trains are transitioned to new Silverliner V cars, those weather-related issues should be minimal.

"We've always had these problems in the past," Casey said. "I cringed every time it snowed because of the costs and the traction motor issue. It's always plagued the authority. Hopefully, eventually, we'll be able to replace those Silverliners and they won't be susceptible to these issues."

Casey just wants to make sure riders are aware of any issues or delays.

"I think people understand we have an old system and it's going to take a long time to rebuild it and get modern technology," he said.

Even though preparation is done for storms, it's never known to what degree the impact will be.

"Unfortunately, things do happen," Casey said. "Our goal is to get service back to normal as quickly as possible."

CHRISTINA PACIOLLA
christina.paciolla@metro.us

Step 1: Beat it with a baseball bat

Andrew Wood, chef and owner of Russet restaurant in Center City, shows Drexel University students how to soften a pig leg by hitting it with a rolling pin during a demonstration of pig butchery at the Philly Chef Conference at the college on Monday. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Busted. Attorney sold fine wine illegally from Malvern home

A Chester County attorney was busted last week for selling expensive, fine and rare wines out of his Malvern home.

The Chester County District Attorney's Office said Monday that on Jan. 6, state police seized just under 2,500 bottles of high-end wine valued between $150,000 and $200,000 after a raid of 49-year-old Arthur Goldman's home.

An investigation by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board, which included officers posing as possible buyers, discovered Goldman was running a private mail-order wine business without a liquor license, and was buying the wine from outside the state.

"The defendant imported a collection of high-end wine that included over two thousand bottles. He made those wines available for sale to his own private list of customers knowing that it was illegal," said First Assistant District Attorney Michael Noone in a news release.

"This was not some casual exchange of wine between friends," he added. "The defendant was running a highly organized, high-volume illegal business operation to make money." METRO

Fines possible

$200K

He is charged with violating the Pennsylvania Liquor Code, and could face fines of up to $200,000.

Dumb criminal

Man fails to firebomb Kensington house

A masked man tried five times but ultimately failed to firebomb a Kensington home around 2 a.m. on Jan. 9, police said Monday.

Police released surveillance video on Monday that shows the man light the Molotov cocktail all five times and throw it at the front window of the home — on the 2600 block of North Frankford Avenue — all five times.

He watched it bounce off the home each time and land on the sidewalk.

The second to last time, it ricocheted back into his face.

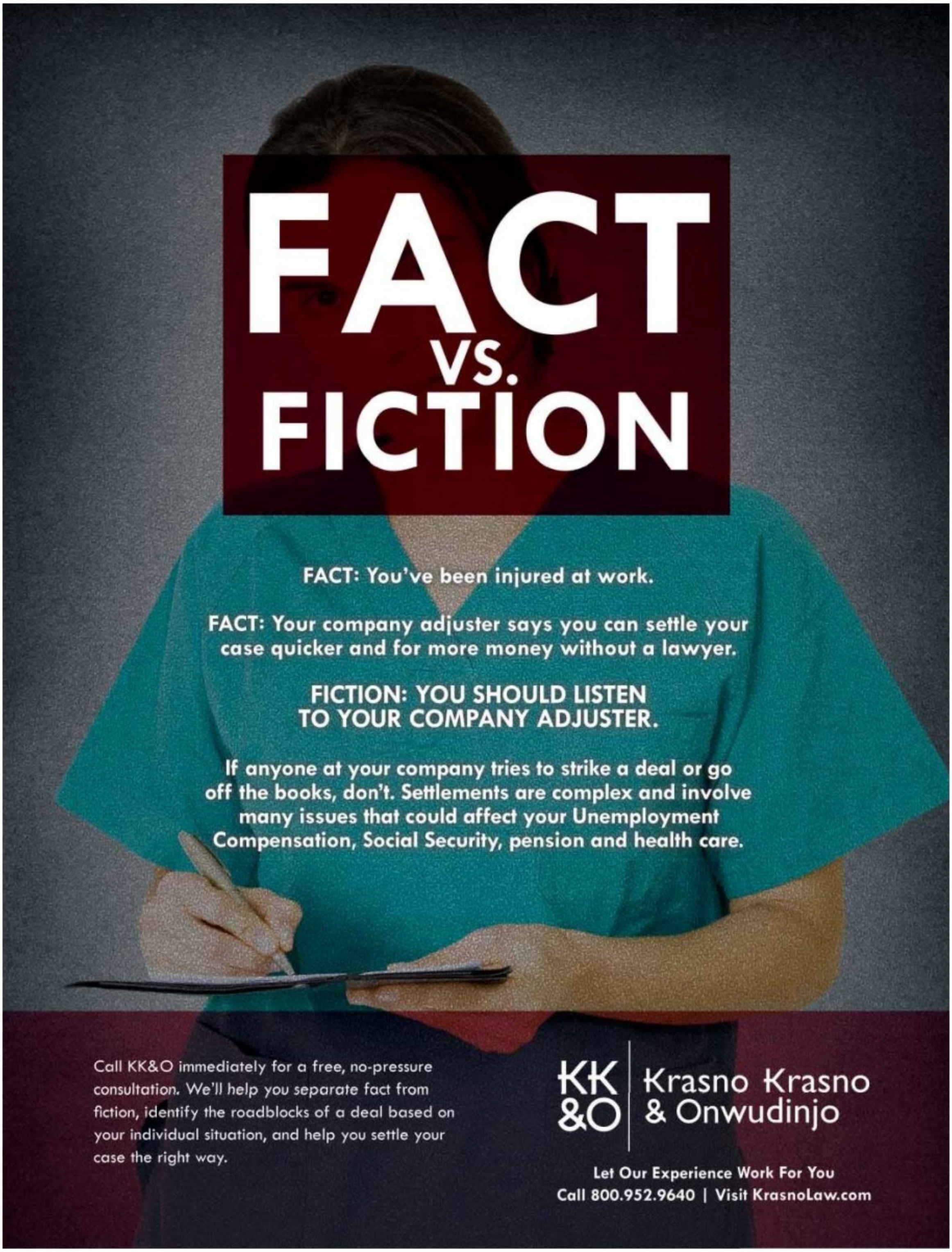
After that he tried one last time, but then just gave up and ran away.

The man — dressed in a black hat, sweatpants and a coat with a hooded sweatshirt underneath — is wanted for arson.

Anyone with information is asked to contact East Detectives Division at 215-686-3243 or 215-686-3244. METRO

For more info

- To watch the video, log on to Metro.us.
- To submit a tip, call 215.686.TIPS (8477) or text a tip to PPD TIP or 773847.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Equality. Gay couple wants their marriage legally recognized

They were married in Massachusetts, but they're considered unwed in Pennsylvania. They hope to change that.

Cara Palladino and Isabelle Barker, of Philadelphia, filed a motion Monday in federal court demanding a decision in their lawsuit to compel the state to recognize their marriage, on the grounds that the U.S. Supreme Court already found gay marriage constitutional.

"While you can be married in 17 states and the District of Columbia, in 30 of the states, that marriage is not recognized," said Malcolm Lazin, executive director of Equality Forum, which supports Barker and Palladino.

Barker and Palladino filed their lawsuit in September. The lack of recognition for their marriage has caused them hardships, Lazin said.

"Five years ago, Isabelle had their son. Under family law across the country, it's assumed that a child born within wedlock is the child of both parents," Lazin said. "Pennsylvania law does not assume that. So they had to go through what is called second child adoption." SAM NEWHOUSE

Rights denied

A legally recognized marriage entitles spouses to about 670 state marital benefits. They include:

- The right to file a joint tax return.
- The right to inherit a spouse's property.
- The right to share custody of a spouse's biological offspring.

Get it in while you can

Two students from Drexel University took advantage of Monday's warmer temperatures to get in a little soccer practice.

CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Hit and run

Off-duty cop hit in West Philadelphia

An off-duty police officer was hit by a suspected drunken driver who ran following the accident in West Philly, reports said.

The driver of a Pontiac ran a red light around 2 a.m. Monday at 57th Street and Haverford Avenue and hit the officer's SUV.

Three suspects are in custody; a fourth is at large. METRO

Wawa robbery

Chain is offering a $10K reward for conviction

A Wawa in Northeast Philadelphia was robbed at gunpoint early Monday for the fifth time in four months, and the chain has offered a $10,000 reward for information that leads to an arrest and conviction.

Around 2 a.m., a masked gunman entered the store, on the 6400 block of Bustleton Avenue, and announced the holdup.

He allegedly forced an assistant store manager to empty a safe and cash register.

The gunman fled through a rear door with an unknown amount of cash and a carton of Newport cigarettes, police said.

There were seven customers and four employees in the store at the time of the robbery. Nobody was injured.

Only the first robbery, which occurred on Oct. 1, was perpetrated by two individuals. The last was Nov. 26. METRO

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Inaccurate? City Hall trashes Inquirer op-ed on leaders' pay

After 13 "double-dipping" parks and recreation employees were fired for violating the city charter by holding two government jobs, Republican ward leader Matthew Wolfe was incensed.

"They kicked around these little people who are just trying to make enough money to send their kid to a Catholic school or something like that and humiliated them and fired them for something going on throughout the entire term of the Nutter administration," Wolfe said.

In an op-ed for Sunday's Philadelphia Inquirer, Wolfe claimed that Mayor Michael Nutter's deputy mayors are all also in violation by holding two jobs.

For example, Managing Director Richard Negrin is also deputy mayor of administration and coordination.

But Nutter's press secretary Mark McDonald said that's not a violation.

"The three deputy mayors mentioned have a range of duties and titles, but they are paid for one job," McDonald said. "City solicitors have concluded that this is no violation."

Wolfe said the city solicitor's opinion is not "a legal authority."

Wolfe's claims that city leaders earn more than allowed under the charter are also untrue, McDonald said. The charter provides for cost-of-living pay increases. **SAM NEWHOUSE**

Quoted

"If they're relying on a city solicitor's opinion, then I think that's so much hooey."
Wolfe

Nutter signs land bank bill into law

Mayor Michael Nutter on Monday signs the recently passed land bank legislation, which would expedite the process by which the city sells vacant properties. / CHARLES MOSTOLLER, METRO

Fatal

Teen dead in car crash

One teen died and another was seriously injured when a car hopped a curb and struck them in Delaware County on Sunday night.

The teen died from injuries sustained when he was struck by one of two cars involved in a crash along the 500 block of West Baltimore Pike in Clifton Heights about 9 p.m., reports say. The report identified the teen as 18-year-old Dante Desimone, an Upper Darby High School graduate. Desimone was a freshman at Neumann University

His friend was taken to the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, where he was in serious condition Monday morning. A second friend of Desimone's was not injured.
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Celebrity Cruises 12-Day Europe $1099* $1499* $1979* Up to $300 Onboard Credit, Free pre-paid Gratuities or Free Bev Pkg
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Accountable. Target planning 'significant changes' after breach

Target Corp. plans to make "significant changes" in light of the data breach during the holiday shopping season when hackers stole personal information of millions of customers, the U.S. retailer's chief executive said in an interview with CNBC aired on Monday.

Malware was installed on the company's point of sale registers, Gregg Steinhafel said, and Target was working with law enforcement agencies investigating the breach.

"As time goes on, we're going to get to the bottom of this," he said. "We're not going to rest until we understand what happened and how that happened.

"Clearly, we're accountable and we're responsible but we're going to come out at the end of this a better company and we're going to make significant changes." REUTERS

TARGET CARD SCANNER
GETTY IMAGES

Struck down

One dead after Florida movie theater shooting

A man shot two people in a movie theater Monday afternoon in Wesley Chapel, Fla., after an argument about texting, WTSP reported. The shooting happened at Cobb Theater's Grove 16 & CineBistro, and authorities have the suspected shooter in custody.

Officers told WTSP that both victims were airlifted to a hospital, where one victim was pronounced dead.

The Pasco County Sheriff's Office said two couples were sitting in the theater watching "Lone Survivor" when the male victim was texting on his phone. The man from the couple sitting behind him began arguing with him and then shot the couple in front of him. WTSP reports that the woman had non-life threatening injuries. ANDREA PARK

Gov. Christie faces new probe over Sandy funds

Second term. News of the audit arrives on the eve of his annual State of the State address on Tuesday.

Superstorm Sandy slammed into the New Jersey coastline causing approximately $29.4 billion in damage. / GETTY IMAGES

U.S. investigators are looking into whether embattled New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie misused about $2 million in superstorm Sandy relief funds for an ad campaign that put him in the spotlight in an election year, officials said on Monday.

Already enmeshed in a scandal over snarled traffic at the George Washington Bridge, Christie, a likely 2016 Republican presidential contender, is now being audited by the Inspector General at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, an agency spokesman said.

The probe began after HUD "received a request from Congress," the spokesman said.

"It is inappropriate for taxpayer-funded dollars that are critical to our state's recovery from this natural disaster to fund commercials that could potentially benefit a political campaign," said New Jersey Congressman Frank Pallone Jr., a Democrat, in an Aug. 8, 2013, letter requesting the investigation.

The winning ad, with the tag line that New Jersey was "Stronger than the Storm," aired in the spring as Christie headed into a re-election campaign to win a second term.

Sandy devastated New York, New Jersey and other parts of the East Coast on Oct. 29, 2012. The storm killed at least 159 people and damaged or destroyed more than 650,000 homes, many in Pallone's district on the Jersey Shore, where the storm made landfall.

"Had Governor Christie chosen the less-expensive firm, $2.2 million in federal disaster aid could have potentially been directed elsewhere, for example, to provide 44 Sandy-impacted homeowners $50,000 grants to raze their homes," Pallone said in a press release.

There was no immediate response to calls and emails to Christie's office for comment. REUTERS

Marketing campaign

$25M

The inspector is focusing on a federally financed $25 million Jersey Shore marketing campaign that included a commercial featuring Christie and his family. The ad cost $2 million more than a competing bid without them.

GOV. CHRIS CHRISTIE
GETTY IMAGES

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4 Ways to make saving a habit

NEW in the new year

Debt management. Mark Butler, the director of outreach at YouNeedABudget.com shares his tips on becoming richer without even thinking about it.

1 Build momentum with small victories. If you've never been very good at saving money, start small. Before you tackle goals in the tens of hundreds, get some hundred-dollar wins. Pay off a small credit card balance you've had floating around, save up for that new iPad or Macbook Air you've had your eye on or plan a weekend road trip with a few friends a couple months in the future.

2 Remind yourself of the goal at least once a day. It's crucial that you see saving money as something positive and goal-oriented, not an exercise in self-deprivation. When you're faced with the desire and opportunity to consume wastefully, remind yourself of your goal. That way, you're not depriving yourself of one thing; you're rewarding yourself with another.

3 Use a budget. Next time you get paid, ask yourself, "How much of this money could I set aside to reach my goal?" With a functional budget, you'll have a clear answer in seconds. If you choose to spend by the seat of your pants, it will be tough to know how much — if any — of your paycheck can fund your goal. Create a spending plan and use it to assign dollars to your highest value priorities.

4 As you gain smaller victories, scale your goals. Steps one through three will give you those hundred-dollar victories. After you've successfully saved up for the new iPad or paid off that $500 credit card balance that's been nagging you, you can take your saving to another level. Set slightly bigger goals. You've already proven you can delay some gratification — now it's time to beef up your saving power by going for bigger, longer-term goals.

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Your 2014 shopping guide

NEW in the new year

Finance. Style expert Lilliana Vazquez shares her tips on mapping out your spending for the year.

Even if you made a New Year's resolution to save money in 2014, that doesn't mean you have to sacrifice style. Lilliana Vazquez, style expert and author of "The Cheap Chica's Guide to Style," shared her tips.

January

Winter coats and accessories: "Winter items get really marked down in January, but we'll probably still be wearing these until April," says Vazquez.

February

Spring items: Vazquez says though this is when stores get their first shipments of spring clothes, retailers will mark them down if no one is buying.

March and April

Shoes: This is when shoe selection is the largest, and stores will mark down prices if no one's buying those summer sandals yet.

May

Consignment items: "A lot of people are cleaning out, so it's a good time to deal hunt in your neighborhood," says Vazquez.

June and July

Summer items: Fall items will be trickling into stores by now, which means you can find great deals on summer clothes. "You can get stuff you can get a lot of use out of, like shorts, rompers and sundresses — things that feel seasonal," says Vazquez.

August - October

Summer clearance: Vazquez calls this "back-to-school summer leftover time." Inventory will be a mixed bag of summer odds and ends without much size availability, but this is when you can get the best deals on summer clearance items.

Big purchases

November - December

November is a big shopping month with Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Vazquez says this is when she saves up for her big, pricey purchases like cashmere sweaters. "These deals I only splurge on once a year because I can wear them for a long time, so it's a great value proposition for my closet," she says.

Lilliana Vazquez, the author of "The Cheap Chica's Guide to Style" shares her tips on shopping smart. / LILLIANA VAZQUEZ

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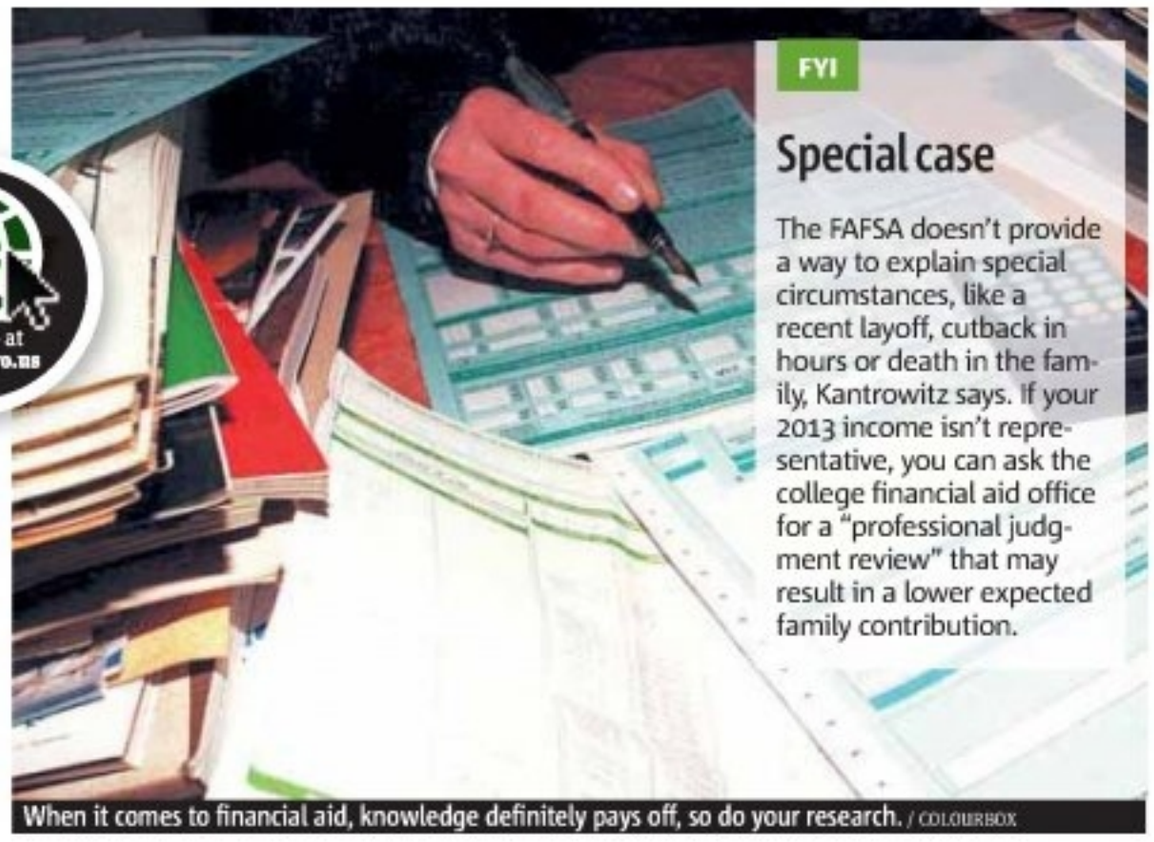

When it comes to financial aid, knowledge definitely pays off, so do your research. / COLOURBOX

Money. Don't play around with your financial aid application.

Millions of families will fill out a key financial aid form in coming weeks, many for the first time. Unfortunately, mistakes on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid are easy to make, education experts say.

Here are some of the most costly errors to avoid:

Failing to file. Too many people incorrectly believe they either don't need or won't get aid. The American Council on Education found that one of every five dependent low-income students and one in four independent low-income students — those most likely to get Pell Grants destined for the neediest students — fail to apply for aid.

At the other end of the scale, families with six-figure incomes may not file, not realizing that income isn't the only criteria used, says Mark Kantrowitz of Edvisors Network. Family size, the number of children in college and other criteria are taken into account, which can result in need-based aid even for wealthier families.

Even if there is no need-based aid offered, filing the FAFSA gives families access to federal student loans, which are more consumer-friendly.

Waiting until you file your taxes. Your FAFSA form requires 2013 income tax data, but waiting can be an expensive mistake. Some schools offer bonuses for early filers, while a lot of financial aid is first come, first served, says W. Kent Barnds, executive vice president at Augustana College.

Late filing puts families "at the back of the line" for aid, says Todd Weaver, a former financial aid official and partner in Strategies for College, a consulting firm.

Use estimated tax numbers so you can file the FAFSA as soon after January 1 as possible, then correct it with the actual data once you have it.

Not getting help. The FAFSA's complexity can be daunting, Kantrowitz says, especially to lower-income families who don't have experience applying for college — in other words, those most likely to benefit from aid.

Fortunately, there are ways to get free, expert help. The College Goal Sunday national program (Collegegoalsundayusa.org) offers events in most states. Many colleges and universities also schedule "boot camps" to help families tackle the form, Barnds says. REUTERS

FYI

Special case

The FAFSA doesn't provide a way to explain special circumstances, like a recent layoff, cutback in hours or death in the family, Kantrowitz says. If your 2013 income isn't representative, you can ask the college financial aid office for a "professional judgment review" that may result in a lower expected family contribution.

Tip

Include all possible colleges

Life is uncertain, so cover your bases. Have your FAFSA results sent to every college you're considering, even the ones that seem unlikely to be your final choice. One of those long-shot colleges may surprise you with an excellent aid package that could sway your thinking. Alternatively, a reversal in your situation could have you seeking out different choices.

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Turn small talk into big dreams

Chitchat. Turn your face time with industry leaders into future opportunities.

Don't waste the chances you get around campus to get some time with leaders in your field. / STOCKBYTE

Being a college student means you have access to the writers, thinkers and industry leaders who are at the very top of their fields. It's easy to discount these face-to-face opportunities — or even bail on them if there's a pizza party in the dorm — but missing out is unwise. Each new opportunity is an opportunity to make a connection. Follow these rules to turn small talk into your big break.

1 Develop curiosity. Questions are a simple and easy way to get to know someone. However, when you're looking for an opportunity, you want to ask questions that will spark meaningful conversation.

A question is an invitation to engage, so while you're busy not talking, you should come up with questions to ignite interest in your conversation partner and build engagement. At the end of the day, great questions sprout from your genuine curiosity and fascination. They give you a chance to radiate authenticity and drive a conversation. Take cues from your conversation partner. If they seem bored with broad questions, get more specific. If you feel lost, don't be afraid to let them choose the next topic.

2 Showcase your personal brand. Once you've spotted your potential opportunity and confirmed that it matches your skills and experience, it's time to make your move. If the conversation you're having is lively and informal, you can say something direct: "Can I share my thoughts on this?" or "I have some experience in this area."

If you're afraid of coming on too strong, try an indirect approach. Share a relevant personal story that offers some input and demonstrates your skills. Have an anecdote ready, put it out there and listen to what your conversation partner says about it.

Know who you are, what you stand for and what value you bring to the table.

Having a clear sense of your personal brand gives you confidence to display your strengths, talk about your experience and demonstrate your value. Sincere enthusiasm is crucial. Don't try and solve problems that are outside your interests or skill set — not every opportunity is right for you.

TANIA DESA

Remember me?

Follow up fearlessly

Even the most promising conversation won't lead to a real opportunity without follow-up.

Make sure you've got some way of staying in touch with your new contact once you part ways. You can exchange contact information, find each other on social media or even plan a follow-up meeting right then and there. It takes courage and a firm belief in yourself to carry the opportunity forward.

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These Golden Globe dresses have doppelgangers

Is it just us or did a lot of Sunday night's red carpet dresses at the Golden Globes look familiar? So familiar that we at Metro did some digging: Here are the results of our sleuthing.

Zoe Saldana

Zoe Saldana's Prabal Gurung gown looked like it was found in the "Friends" costume bin.

Drew Barrymore

Drew Barrymore in Monique Lhuillier looked delicious — just like a Krispy Kreme Valentine's Day doughnut.

Sandra Bullock

The "Gravity" star's Prabal Gurung dress took inspiration from neon bathing suits from the '80s.

Reese Witherspoon

Did you also think Reese Witherspoon in this simple Calvin Klein gown resembled a banana clip?

Jennifer Lawrence

The Best Supporting Actress winner in Dior was simply purrr-fect.

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

DOROTHY ROBINSON
@dorothyatmetro
dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Talking points

Bieber eggs a house

Justin Bieber is in hot water with his Calabasas, Calif., neighbor after allegedly throwing more than a dozen eggs at the man's house in an unprovoked attack late last week, according to E! News. "It was around 7:30 p.m. and I was in my house upstairs with my daughter. We began to hear something hitting the house, like rocks and things crashing into the window. We went to our outside balcony and saw [Bieber] standing in my front yard, ripping eggs at my house," the unnamed neighbor says. "I screamed at him, he yelled back at me, said, 'Yeah? I got another one for you,' and threw more eggs. It was unprovoked, as I have not seen the kid in months." The incident is currently under investigation.

Cassidy busted for third DUI

David Cassidy was arrested for driving under the influence for a third time over the weekend in Los Angeles, according to TMZ. Officers reportedly detected an odor of alcohol emanating from Cassidy's vehicle and conducted a field sobriety test, discovering that Cassidy's blood alcohol content was more than twice the legal limit. Last year, the former "Partridge Family" star was busted in Albany, N.Y., and in 2010 he was nabbed in Florida after weaving across lanes on a state road with a half-empty bottle of bourbon in his car.

Twitter feed

We check in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

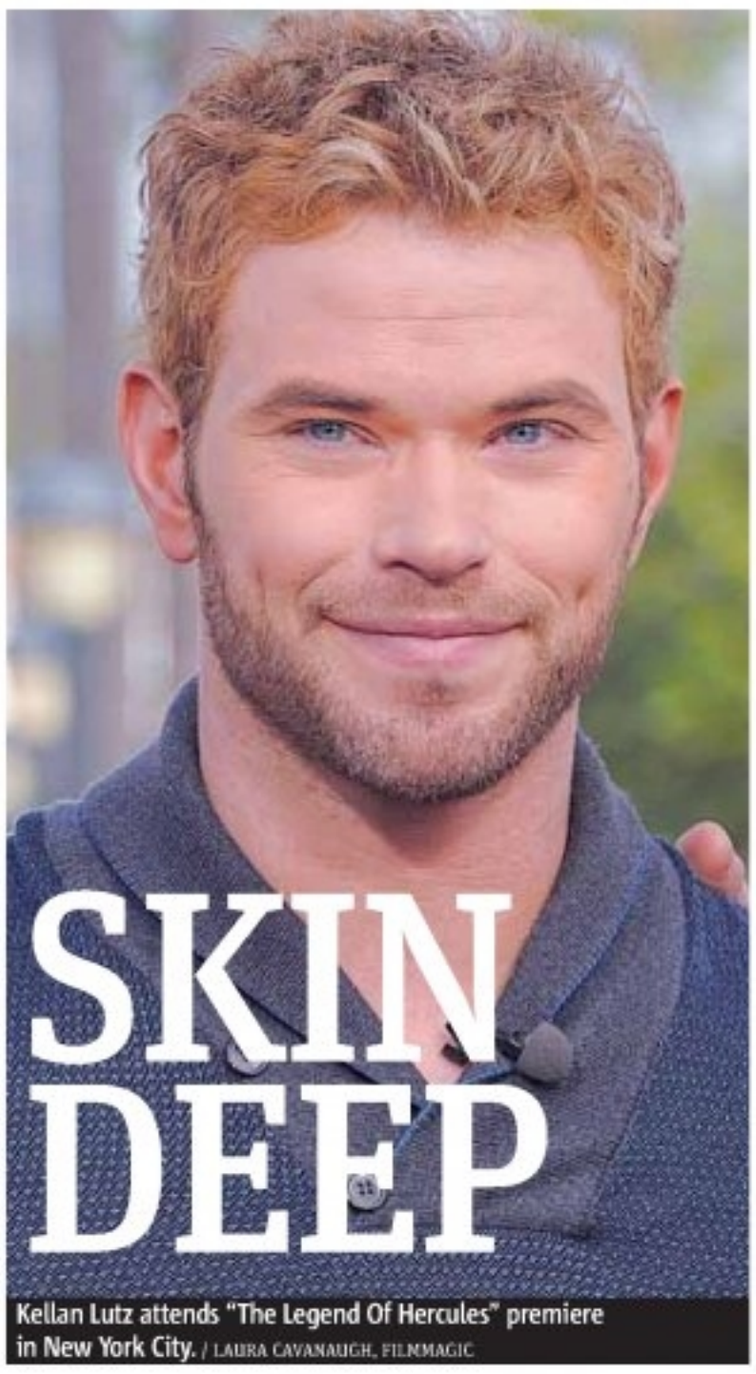
Today, Shia LaBeouf wants you to leave him alone, Seth Rogen is catching up on awards season, Steve Carell continues to be disappointed and Whitney Cummings is looking for something to do.

@thecampaignbook: I AM NOT FAMOUS ANYMORE

@Sethrogen: I'm a little behind on the globes but HOLY S—! Christopher Plummer won for Beginners!

@SteveCarell: Every six years I purchase a can of Underwood Deviled Ham thinking that it will be something other than what it is.

@WhitneyCummings: Hey somebody send me a text so I can over analyze it!



SKIN DEEP

Kellan Lutz attends "The Legend Of Hercules" premiere in New York City. / LAURA CAVANAUGH, FILMMAGIC

Interview. "The Legend of Hercules" star Kellan Lutz shows us his battle scars.

Movie-making can be a dangerous business, and Kellan Lutz has the scars to prove it. So naturally when we sat down with the star of "The Legend of Hercules" — the first of this year's pictures about the strongman, with the Dwayne Johnson-led "Hercules: The Thracian Wars" due in July — some good-natured show-and-tell was in order.

I was going to ask about scars, if there are any stories you want to share of your favorites from filming.

Oh yeah. I have some on my knees that I can't really show you because I'm in my jeans, but for "Arena," every time I'd get tasered I'd drop to my knees and get dragged away. Also in "Arena," we'd be fighting, and the other guy had butcher knives. We'd be fighting and they'd have rubber ones for the wide shots, but then as they came in closer they'd give him real ones. I had a full-on shirt, but we still got close enough that now I have two lines right over my nipples. Like, he could've cut my nipples off. For "Hercules," just my ass. I have two raw lines there [from horseback-riding]. I also have a little one [on my hip] — you can't even see it. That's because they had the real sword when Scott Adkins and I were fighting, and he just stabbed me. It's like, you have armor and you think it's going to protect you, but it's movie armor.

And not a movie sword, unfortunately.

Does it worry you at all, Yeah, yeah. What else do I have? I'd really have to think about that. I'd really have to just take a shower and look. I have always wanted to get tattoos. I got to wear tattoos for "Expendables 3," which was such an awesome experience — just putting them on, and I got to design them a little bit. I just felt, like, badass with tattoos. But … to actually be an actor who has to cover those up, it's tough. That's why if I got one, I would have it somewhere less visible. Some girls don't think about it — and girls are always in bikinis or dresses, so you can always see it.

having people, like us critics, see the film before it's finished?

I never really thought about it. I like the movie, and I saw it in its very roughest stage. Of course I want someone to see it in its best stage, but we're on a time frame as well, we had to show it. I thought it was great as it is, and that means it can only get better with the more work that they put into it. You know, I wish the whole movie was there because there's a lot of stuff on the editing room floor that no one will ever see. … We shot probably a three-hour movie, and for it to get cut down to 87 minutes, I was floored. Then you watch it again and it works. You have to trust the powers that be. They'd rather have an 87-minute movie that just shoots fast than a three-hour movie that's like a long "Gladiator," where there's slow moments for development. I think audiences are getting harder to entertain. You really have to have these quick movies.

Q&A

A man of faith

What was it about this approach to the Hercules story that appealed to you?

Hercules has always been — for me, because I am a man of faith — it kind of represents Jesus. You know, he's born of a mortal woman — Joseph didn't impregnate her, God did, much like Zeus did [in this]. And Jesus was kind of a demigod, so to speak. So for me, the crucifixion scene and him being a hero to the people really just spoke volumes to my heart, bringing this character to life.

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A theatrical bohemian rhapsody

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Theater preview. "We Will Rock You" brings the music of Queen to the stage once more.

"We Will Rock You" is set 300 years in the future, when the only music the government allows is Computer Recorded Autotuned Pop (also known as C.R.A.P.). Then, a group of bohemians discover a relic from the past: Queen.

"So, a couple of young rebels try to save the world, basically by finding rock 'n' roll again," sums up Ruby Lewis, who plays Scaramouche (name ring any bells?), one of those bohemians.

The government has attempted to eradicate individual thought — people don't even have names, just assigned numbers as identification. But that doesn't jibe so well with Lewis' character.

"She's arrested for speaking her mind and singing her own stuff," says Lewis, whose first song — her favorite — is "Somebody to Love."

The show features 24 Queen songs. Some lyrics have been updated to fit into the modern-day world (for example, "Radio Ga Ga" mentions downloading from the Internet). But the classics, like "Bohemian Rhapsody" and "We Are the Champions," stay true to the band's spirit.

"Unlike other jukebox musicals, the songs are how you're used to hearing them," says Lewis. "They're not condensed versions, they're not sped up or slowed down."

Lewis encourages audience members to take part in the show's "concert vibe."

"Stand up and sing along," she says. "Wave your arms, get caught up in the world and the music."

If you go

'We Will Rock You'

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Fiction

London boys

"We Will Rock You" isn't biographical, a la "Jersey Boys." Instead, like Green Day's "American Idiot" musical, the show incorporates Queen songs into the plot.

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NEW in the new year

Book club picks for 2014

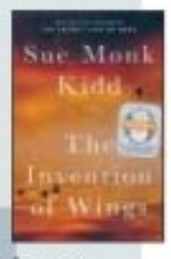
We rounded up a year's worth of books you'll want to talk about constantly.

EMILY LAURENCE

'The Invention of Wings'

By Sue Monk Kidd

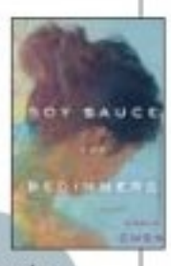
The Quintessential Book Club Pick: Kidd's new book is just as poignant as "The Secret Life of Bees." Alternating chapters between a reluctant female slave owner and her slave, "The Invention of Wings" captures the complexity of black-white friendships during the 1800s and how difficult it was to be a woman — of any race — during that time. (see page 17)



'Soy Sauce for Beginners'

By Kirstin Chen

The Reinvention Story: Virtually everyone will be able to relate to the protagonist in this new novel. Gretchen does her best to pave her own path instead of doing what her family expects, which in this case is joining their soy sauce business. But after her marriage falls apart, she finds herself back home in Singapore doing exactly that.



Hillary Clinton's memoir

The Political Read: It doesn't even have a title yet, but everyone is already talking about the memoir Hillary Clinton is releasing in June. The maybe 2016 presidential candidate will reveal personal and political stories about her years as the Secretary of State. Debate her foreign policy and make predictions about her future with your political-junkie friends.

'Side Effects May Vary'

By Julie Murphy

The YA Pick: Due out in March, "Side Effects May Vary" features a 16-year-old diagnosed with leukemia with slim chances of survival. Don't worry, it gets more uplifting. She makes a bucket list of all the wrongs in her life she wants to set right before she dies. Then she goes into remission and must make good on her commitment. And there's a romance too, of course.

'Everyday Is for the Thief'

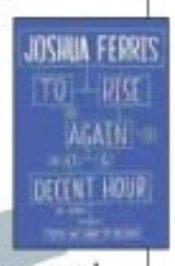
By Teju Cole

The Impressive Read: What started as a travel blog turned out to be Cole's next book (out in March). He returns to the open-air marketplace of Lagos, Nigeria, where lying and tricking others is the only way to live. Capturing the complexity of both loving and hating where you're from, everyone will be talking about this book in 2014.

'To Rise Again at a Decent Hour'

By Joshua Ferris

The Social Commentary: If you loved Dave Eggers' "The Circle," you'll devour this new book from Joshua Ferris, out in May. The novel is about a guy named Paul who gets impersonated online. But as Paul follows the fakery on Facebook and Twitter, he starts thinking this Paul is better than the real thing.



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EDUCATION TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT

SUE MONK KIDD

"The Secret Life of Bees" author has a new novel that weaves the true story of a reluctant slave owner with a fictional story about a mischievous urban slave.

REVISITING RACISM

ROLAND SCARPA

Alternating chapters between Sarah Grimke and her slave Hetty, "The Invention of Wings" captures the complexity of interracial friendships during the 1800s. In our conversation with the novel's author, Sue Monk Kidd, she tells us about the real-life Sarah Grimke and the tough times for women of all races:

Grimke was a real civil rights activist. What was it like discovering her story and the fact that she's been overlooked historically?
It was definitely a surprise. I think she fell down a big crack in history and honestly, I imagine a lot of women fell in that crack.

When you were doing your research, did you come across any other women whose stories you were tempted to tell?
I'm sure there are so many, but I really focused on Sarah immediately when I discovered she was one of the earliest pioneers for women's rights. I knew I wanted to tell the story of an enslaved woman and her owner. That was the only strong feeling I had about the characters, and luckily I was able to find this character both in history and in my imagination.

It doesn't sound like it was a good time to be a woman — black or white.
Exactly. That's one of the things I want people to take away from the book: how far we've come and how some of the greatest movements of the 20th century grew out of movements in the 19th century.

I like that Grimke and Hetty's friendship isn't perfect. At times it felt strained and I think that made it so much more real.
That aspect challenged me a lot. It is not an equal relationship and guilt operates hugely on Sarah's part. I wanted very much to show that complexity and at the same time show that a friendship was possible.

If you go

Sue Monk Kidd book reading

January 28, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Free Library,
1333 Wagner Ave.

Q&A

On slavery:

There's so much historical detail in the book about the way slaves in cities were treated. Was there anything you found especially upsetting when you were doing your research?
Everything I discovered was upsetting. There is a certain familiarity we think we have about slavery, but sometimes familiarity creates distance between us and the subject, which is not a good thing. It needs to be disturbing. The most disturbing thing I discovered was the work house. There were these houses [slave owners] could pay to have their slaves worked, abused and controlled.

Quoted

"I knew I wanted to tell the story of an enslaved woman and her owner. That was the only strong feeling I had about the characters."

Sue Monk Kidd, on her new book, "The Invention of Wings."

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Where to travel in 2014

PLUS

Emerging hotspot

Ethiopia

Ethiopia is a cultural and historical treasure chest just waiting to be explored, complete with nine UNESCO World Heritage sites. Convenient and affordable flights connect its capital city, Addis Ababa, to the famous churches of Lalibela (dubbed "the second Jerusalem"), the colorful Lake Tana Monasteries and extraordinary Blue Nile Falls.

Value destinations for travelers on a budget

See Chicago from a different angle this year. / GETTY IMAGES

Chicago

2014 marks the 100th anniversary of Wrigley Field, but the festivities aren't the only reason to visit. Chicago's star continues to rise thanks to culinary hotspots like Next and Alinea, exclusive bars like The Aviary, boutiques like Ikram (a favorite of Michelle Obama), and the nation's largest bike share program.

Vienna

This city mixes Austria's history with modern attractions, rich arts culture and vibrant wine scene. Visit the new pedestrian "Golden Quarter," watch dancing horses perform at the Spanish Riding School (the oldest equestrian academy) or sip a glass of wine to see why Vienna claims to be Europe's hottest wine destination.

NEW in the new year

Destinations.
From beaches in Brazil to escapades in Ethiopia, these are the must-visit places for the year ahead.

Need inspiration for your travels in 2014? The Fodor's Travel 2014 Go List highlights 25 can't-miss places that should be on everyone's travel radar. The list incorporates everything from emerging destinations and new hot spots to noteworthy events and great values around the world.

Events

This year is the time to visit these spots for noteworthy special events.

Prince Harry just returned from Antarctica — are you next? / GETTY IMAGES

Antarctica

Antarctica's stark, dangerous beauty and engaging wildlife make it one of Earth's last untamed frontiers — and irresistible to explorers and travelers. Next year marks the 100th anniversary of Sir Ernest Shackleton's dramatic Imperial Trans-Antarctic Exploration, making 2014 the perfect time to consider an Antarctic cruise. Climate change is altering the continent, and this journey of a lifetime is a unique way to appreciate Earth's fragility.

Brazil

Expect an all-out party when the World Cup arrives — hundreds of thousands of visitors will descend for the event, looking to cheer on their national teams in 12 host cities. More than 150 new hotels have opened in preparation, and the foodie scene continues to boom. In between matches, trek through the Amazon rain forest, ride into Iguaçu's raging waterfalls or enjoy a relaxing afternoon on Rio's stylish beaches.

Emerging hotspot

Cartagena, Colombia

After years of caution, tourists are now flocking to this stunning, historic walled city on the Caribbean coast of Colombia, which is experiencing a renaissance thanks to a cleaned up and stabilized economy. Direct flights from the East Coast and a boom of new luxury hotels make the trip easier than ever, and there's plenty to explore, from art galleries featuring work by local and international artists, to restaurants serving the freshest seafood and salsa dancing till the wee hours.

Cartagena / REBECCA FINKEL

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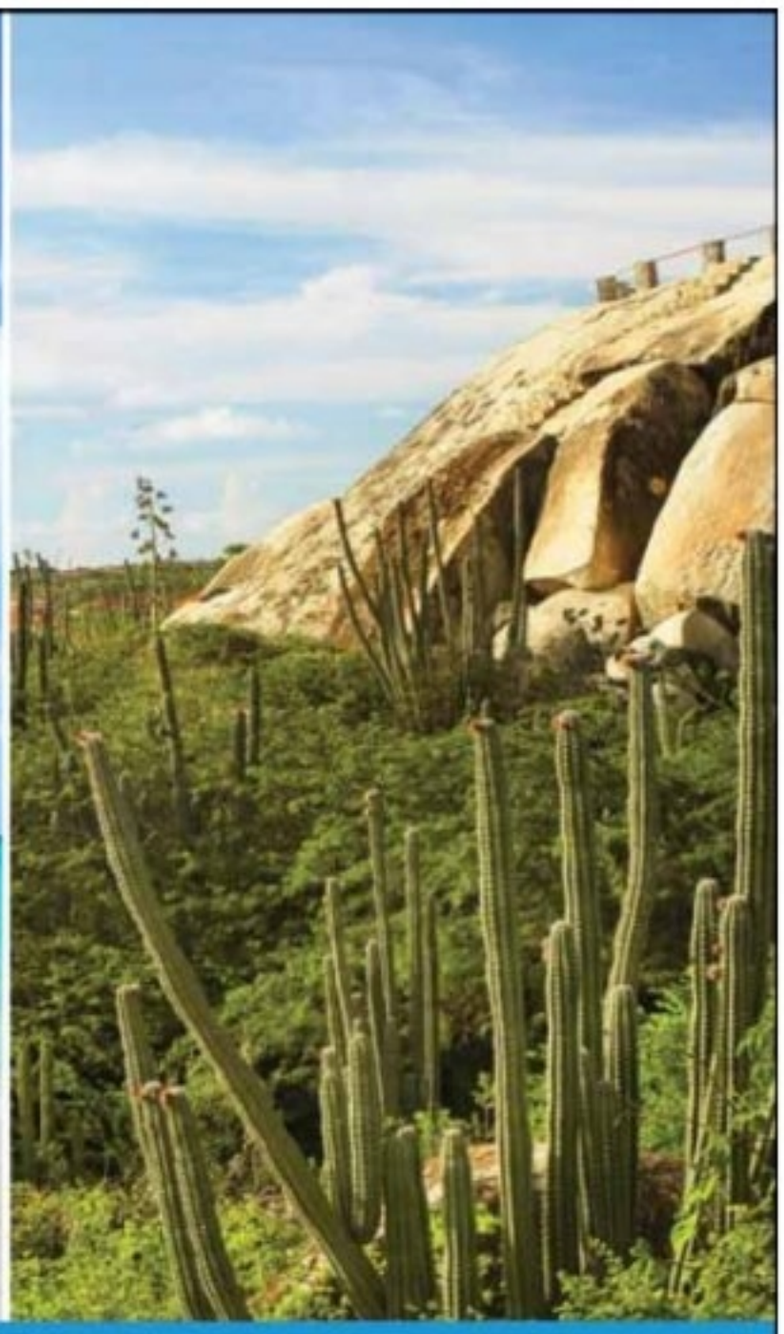
EDUCATION TOWARDS EMPLOYMENT



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The bad office beauty habits to break in 2014

New you. Before you put your new fancy moisturizer into play, start with these tweaks to your routine.

All of the pricey face cream in the world can't save your face and body from the following common pitfalls we all succumb to during the work day. So we enlisted some of the best skin, diet and posture experts around to talk us through how to pull our acts together for the new year by quitting all of those deceptive, damaging habits we indulge in during the work day.

Replace candy with fruits and nuts when that 4 p.m. hunger pang hits. / PROVIDED

Leaning in causes poor circulation, hunchback

"The desk is often the unmovable object, so you'll have to set yourself up around it," says physiotherapist Cheyne Voss. "Your elbows should be at a 90-degree angle as you type, your screen should be an arm's length away and eye level and your feet should be planted firmly on the ground for stability (use a shoebox if your feet are hanging in the air). Your knees should also be at a right angle because your spine will curl under if you let them come above your hips," he explains.

The sugar run means wrinkles

Sugar has a tendency to age skin with the efficiency of the hottest tanning bed. "You're better off snacking on something sweet, but nutrient-rich. Have a handful of mixed nuts or fresh berries," says Lee Mullins, director of personal training at Bodyism Body Clinic in London.

The space heater equals dry skin

The office isn't warm enough, so you turn on the space heater, which in turn sucks your skin dry. "Keep a glass of water on your desk so that when it evaporates, it keeps the air around you moist," says Su-Man. "You can also re-apply your moisturizer midway through the day. Just know that using rich products on your face is like eating rich food all the time. They suffocate your skin. A face cream should be light and easy to absorb," she adds.

The pre-meeting adrenaline rush can block pores

"Stress can cause vitamin and mineral depletion, so mix a vitamin powder containing ingredients such as magnesium, vitamin C, zinc and vitamin B12 to your water," say Sarah Kugelman, the founder of skyn ICELAND. "Stress can also increase sebum production, which can trigger acne," she says. To prevent breakouts, Kugelman says, "Carry an anti-blemish gel in your bag."

ROMINA McGUINNESS
romina.mcguinness@metro.lu

Acne

The 'I'm thinking about it' chin rest

You're sitting at your desk, mulling over an email, and ponderously propping your head up with your hand. Bad idea. "Touching your face with dirty hands is terrible, but if you're going to do it anyway, make sure they're always clean," says Anne Hathaway's facialist Su-Man. "Wipes are easy, but not OK — they're loaded with chemicals and these are going straight onto your skin. You'll end up with blackheads."

Make sure your hands are clean. / FIONLINE

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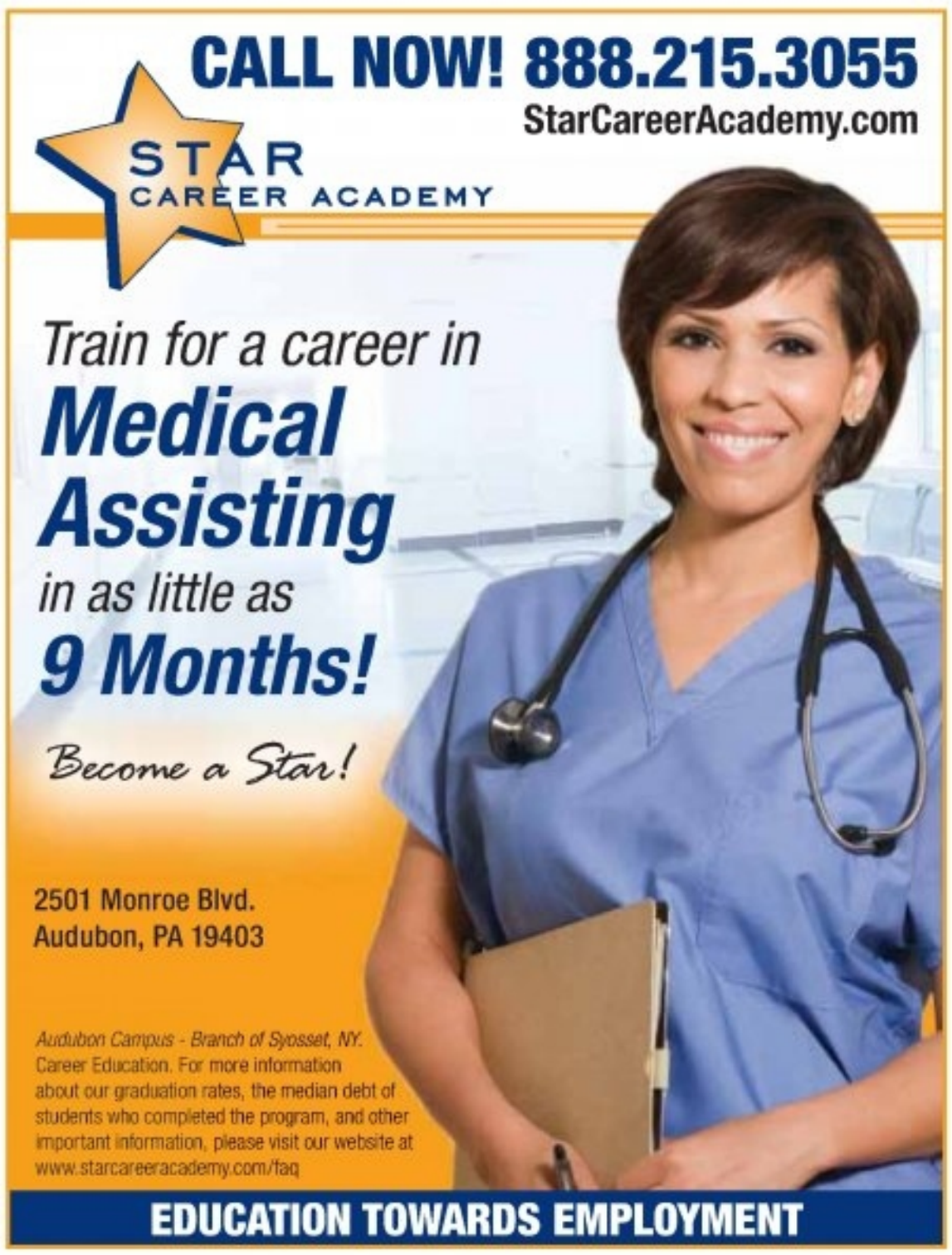

Alyson Hannigan on parenting freak-outs

Parenting. The 'HIMYM' star reveals which one of her co-stars is good with kids — and who wants to run away from babies.

"It's so easy to take a photo with your kids, and now that simple act can help others," Alyson Hannigan says of Smiling It Forward. / PROVIDED

"How I Met Your Mother" star Alyson Hannigan freaked out when her oldest daughter — Satyana, now 4 — started teething. "I had no idea what was wrong," she tells us. "She was just crying all the time and miserable. I took her to the pediatrician and he literally told me all I had to do was give her some Tylenol and it would take her pain away. It was that easy."

It's part of the reason why she teamed up with the medicine brand for Smiling It Forward. Parents can upload a photo of their little one to www.SmilingItForward.com, and for each photo uploaded Tylenol will donate $1 to the Children's Health Fund, a national nonprofit that gives free health care to kids who need it. We talked to Hannigan about some of the other surprises — besides teething — parenting brings.

You have two daughters, Satyana, 4, and Keeva, 1. What is Satyana into right now?

Oh, goodness. Right now, we're very crafty because of the holidays. We've been crafting a lot of decorations. And she loves it when I read to her. The girls have gotten to the point where they play together, which is so heartwarming. Sati also picks out all her own clothes, which is very colorful.

That must be interesting.

Oh, yes. It's always very interesting and very bright. She's pretty disappointed if I wear black. I finally got away with it by saying, "You know sweetie, black is all the colors — I'm wearing them all!"

Which one of your co-stars is the best with kids?

Cobie [Smulders] is unbelievable. She's really fun and the kids fall for her. Jason [Segal] is sort of scared of babies, but he's good. He's just scared of touching them. He likes to keep his distance, but he's really good with them.

EMILY LAURENCE
emily.laurence@metro.us

Baby talk

Who do you go to and trade parenting advice with?

I talk to the other moms at my daughter's school and my best friend, Pamela Fryman, who is the director of "How I Met Your Mother." She's a fantastic mom. Her daughters were 12 when I met them and now they're 21. I'm always asking her for advice.

New for kids

Aden + Anais launches bubble bath

Add some extra giggles to bath time. Mom-approved baby brand, Aden + Anais — a fave of the royal family's — just launched a new addition to their Mum + Bub skin care line: bubble bath.

Like the rest of their Australian Sandalwood scented bath collection, the bubble bath checks off just about every requirement on mom blogs. It's tear-free and free of sulfates, DEA, betane, phosphates, phthalates, parabens, synthetic dyes, harsh chemicals, gluten and soy.

So go ahead fill the tub and get ready for a glee-filled session of splashing.

TINA CHADHA

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Horoscope

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan 20. What you offer friends and family will bring you greater love. Your skills and business sense will garner additional popularity.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb 18. The more you can pack into your day, the better you will feel. Speak up and share your plans. There is an increase in your earning potential.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Your imagination and insight will help you suggest ideas that will raise your profile and enhance your reputation.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Avoid temptation. Overspending will cause stress. Concentrate on what you can do for others building better relationships.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Raise your profile to ensure that you will be considered for a project. You need to attract positive attention if you hope to be chosen.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Keep talking until you get your point across. Your ideas are good, and your ability to bring about change will enable you to make a difference.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Control your emotions and protect your relationships. Anger is the enemy. Build a solid base and choose quality over quantity.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Secrets may cost you if you don't participate. Offer your skills, courage and strength in order to turn an idea into a reality.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Network, share your thoughts and show your strengths. Speak from the heart and present what you have to offer with clarity and persistence.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. You'll be criticized if you don't finish what you start. Take a stance, even if you don't feel prepared. Decisive action will help you overcome a stalemate.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Complete anything that has been left undone. An unusual change at home will turn out to be a creative and fruitful choice.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. You may be anxious to make a financial move, but proceed with caution. Revisit what's happened in the past. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

			1	8	4		2	
7	6		3		5			4
8				6				
		5				8	6	
	8			3			5	
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				7				6
6			5		8		3	9
	4		6	1	2			

	1		6		7	8		
6				5	9			3
	2	9		3				
	4	8				7		
5								4
		1				5	3	
				6		3	8	
4			7	1				2
		7	3		2		5	

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

You get what you vote for, America

Re: 'Bad economics' (Metro, Jan. 10-12)
Letter writer Alton Lee and every American citizen should remember that no matter how dishonest, corrupt, incapable and incompetent our government is, no politician gets into office without being voted for.

When elected, their only interest is being re-elected. Blame the voters who tolerate this and return all politicians to office.

America needs voters of insight and wisdom and not non-thinking morons who just pull election booth levers.

Americans deserve the government they vote for. Blame the voters!
KENNETH STARR, VIA EMAIL

Serf's up in the USA

Re: 'Bad economics' (Metro, Jan. 10-12)
After reading the recent letter about the need for economic freedom, I get the feeling that the writer would be very happy if people were free to contract themselves into serfdom as they could in Europe centuries ago.
ALAN R. BROWN, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

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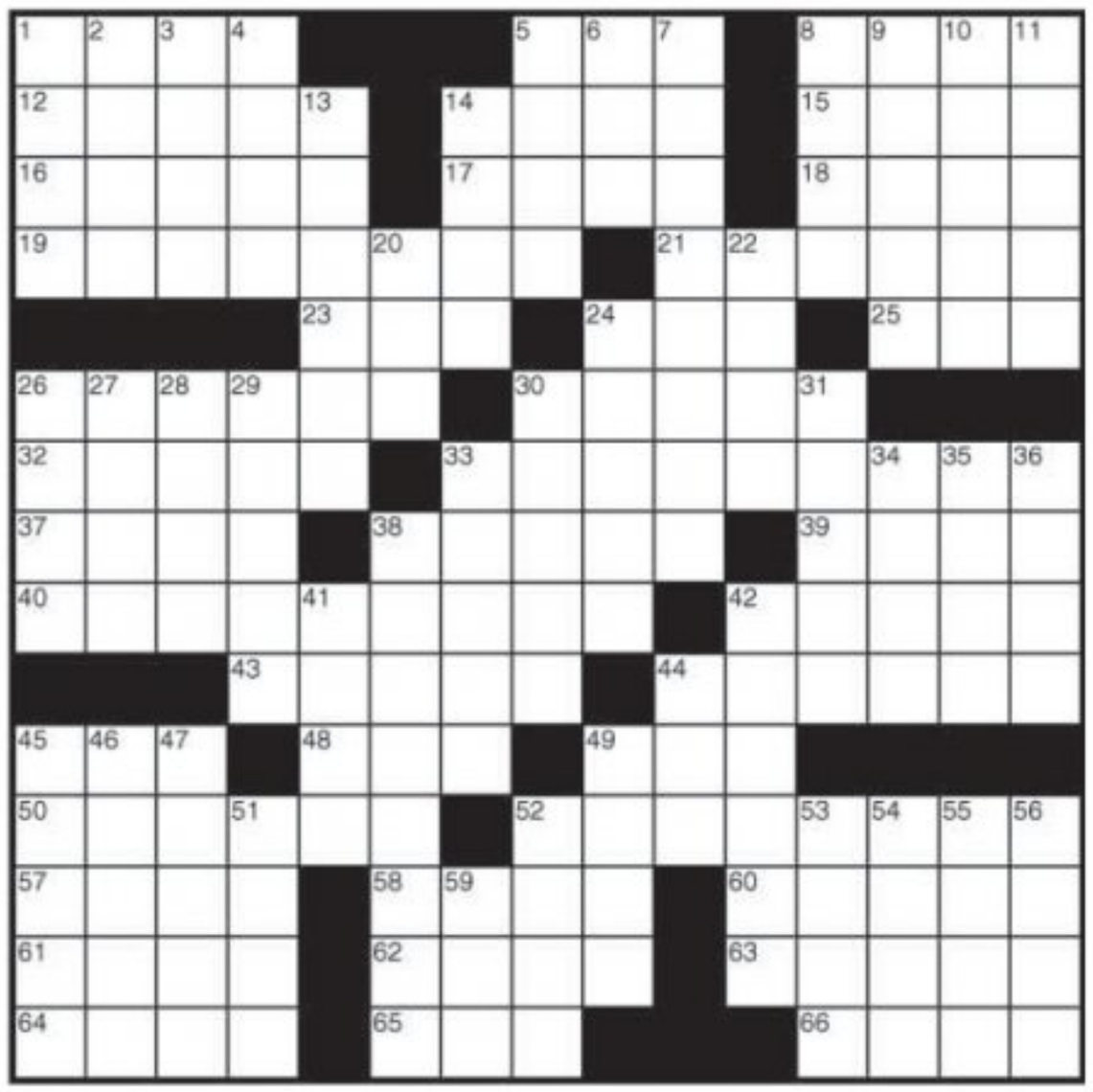
Crossword

Across
1 — dunk
5 "Masterpiece" channel
8 Alarm
12 Sheik's bevy
14 Somersault
15 — —hungry I could . . .
16 Fridge maker
17 Places, to Pliny
18 Muscle quivers
19 Fixed software
21 Mr. Nielsen
23 "Where Eagles Dare" actress
24 Sandwich order
25 Frozen wasser
26 Young cow
30 Coup de —
32 Diplomat
33 Halloween wear (2 wds.)
37 No-hitter king
38 Deceitful cunning
39 Keep under wraps
40 Park amenity
42 Discussion group
43 South Sea isle
44 Faint traces
45 Sit-ups strengthen them
48 — Nimitz
49 Mobster's piece
50 Dormant
52 Priests' domains
57 Walked heavily
58 Mother of Horus
60 Tennyson's Arden
61 Beside oneself
62 Grab a cookie
63 After
64 Depend on
65 Region of India
66 Dappled

Down
1 Large herring
2 Glittery fabric
3 Dashing horse
4 Bill of fare
5 Grind away
6 Razor brand
7 Tanker catastrophe
8 Things to throw
9 Rousseau opus
10 PC character code
11 Romantic offering
13 Tequila cactus
14 Go on the lam
20 Watchdog's warning
22 Write on glass
24 Turbot cousin
26 Dagwood's neighbor
27 Gaelic pop star
28 John, in Siberia
29 Workout name
30 Cook over charcoal
31 Hawke of "Gattaca"
33 Coal and gas
34 Building add-on
35 — fixe
36 Sets
38 Writing without credit
41 Blow away
42 Feels for
44 La Brea — pits
45 Vows venue
46 Boat on a canal
47 Piano seat
49 Bad cut
51 Tense
52 Galileo's home
53 Save a coupon
54 Hagar's daughter
55 Livy's "Lo!"
56 Discard
59 Great Lake canals



Yesterday's answer

S	A	V	O	R		L	E	F	T		C	O	P	E
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NEXT PHILLIES BROADCASTER MUST BE BRUTALLY HONEST

In the final analysis, there was really only one remarkable thing about the broadcasting career of Chris Wheeler. He survived 37 years in the Phillies broadcast booth without ever worrying about the truth. Day after day, year after year, he sold his own version of reality to a city that demands brutal honesty.

His run finally ended last week when Comcast, just days after agreeing to a new $2.5-billion TV deal, dumped both Wheeler and Gary Matthews.

Neither commentator was popular, but Wheeler was alone in the contempt he elicited from fans.

In fact, an Internet poll conducted at WIP radio right after the move showed that 75 percent were happy to see him go. Other surveys bore similar results.

The reason for Philadelphia's deep dislike of Wheeler is no mystery. Although he knows baseball, he always placed the interests of the Phillies — and himself — above the truth. In Wheeler's world, Jimmy Rollins has run hard on every pop-up. Cole Hamels hung a change-up? Must be the residue from that thunderstorm this afternoon. Ryan Howard stinks against left-handed pitching? The slugger is just "fighting it a little up there right now."

As someone who talks to fans every day on WIP, I know how essential it is not to insult the intelligence of people who are so passionate about every game, every play. Wheeler never cared about that. He came into the Phillies organization as a PR man, and he is leaving the same way.

The obvious question is, how did he last so long? The answer is president Dave Montgomery. If the broadcaster was good at anything, it was ingratiating himself with the people who matter most. He was a great friend — if you could help him. Montgomery always stood by him, blind to his many shortcomings.

For example, Wheeler even managed to survive a long, ugly feud with one of his broadcast partners, Harry Kalas, near the end of the Hall of Famer's career. Kalas was one of the most likeable people in Philadelphia sports history, and he loathed working with Wheeler. Is there a more damning indictment than that?

When Kalas died in 2009, he was honored with a deluge of glowing tributes for his amazing service to the fans. Wheeler will be remembered fondly for only one fleeting moment in his 37 years behind the mike.

It came just a few months before Kalas' death, when the Phillies won the World Series. As Kalas boomed out, "The Philadelphia Phillies are the 2008 world champions of baseball," Wheeler was seated next to him, waving his arms in joy but making not a sound to ruin the brilliant call of his partner.

Imagine that. The finest moment of Chris Wheeler's broadcasting career was the one time he knew enough to shut up.

Chris Wheeler, center, was along for the ride during the Phillies' recent string of successes. A new voice will take over in the Booth next season. / GETTY IMAGES

The Voice of Philly Sports

ANGELO CATALDI

Cataldi on Wheeler

The finest moment of Chris Wheeler's broadcasting career was the one time he knew enough to shut up.

3 SPORTS

Wildcats climbing

Villanova improves to No. 6 in AP poll

The Villanova men's basketball team jumped two spots to No. 6 in the latest Associated Press poll, thanks to wins over Seton Hall and St. Johns last week, and outstanding play from JayVaughn Pinkston.

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Cataldi. Nick Foles is a real franchise QB

What is it going to take? How many more precise passes does Nick Foles have to throw before he receives the title of Eagles franchise quarterback?

If winning seven out of the last eight regular-season games wasn't enough, if leading the NFL in quarterback rating is insufficient, what is?

The first week after the Birds were ousted from the playoffs had to be a sobering time for Foles, who left the field against New Orleans after putting his team ahead, 24-23, with five minutes remaining. Even though special teams and the defense failed to hold the lead, Foles remains the No. 1 target of skeptics both inside and outside of Philadelphia.

Just last week, coach Chip Kelly forced out two consecutive "yups" when asked if Foles had earned the starting job.

Twenty-seven touchdown passes and two interceptions deserved more than two "yups." Fox commentator Brian Billick said he would still keep his options open at quarterback if he were coaching the Eagles. Huh?

And yes, I expressed my own serious doubts right on these pages after Foles choked in the first game against the Cowboys. His performance that day was so abysmal, I temporarily lost faith in a second-year quarterback with no running ability and no bazooka attached to his right shoulder. I fell into the same trap.

Nick Foles threw for 27 touchdowns in 2013. / GETTY IMAGES

But I know better now, and it's time for the rest of the naysayers to join the Nick Foles Fan Club.

All anybody with an open mind needed to do was watch superstar Russell Wilson face the Saints defense a week after Foles did.

The Eagles QB outplayed Wilson in every category. Passing yards: 195-103; touchdown passes: 2-0; and points: 24-23. **ANGELO CATALDI**

Cataldi on Foles

The time for questions about Nick Foles is over. He is a great young quarterback destined to take the Eagles to a place they have never been before, a Super Bowl victory. Bet on it.

Idle thoughts

Here are a few other things eating at Angelo Cataldi this week.

- DeSean Jackson had a rough week. First, the Eagles wide receiver claimed that his public appeal for a new contract was misinterpreted, and then $200,000 in cash was stolen from his South Philadelphia home. Just one question: If he has $200,000 just sitting around, why does he need more?
- After stealing money in Philadelphia and Cleveland, Andrew Bynum is weighing overtures from as many as eight NBA teams right now. And then we wonder why lackadaisical bozos like Bynum act the way they do. It's pretty simple, isn't it? They keep getting paid.
- The Flyers had an amazing run over the past few weeks (6-1), and then blew back-to-back games this weekend against the Lightning and the Rangers. They have won 23 games this season and lost 23 games (including overtime). There's a word for that – mediocre.
- New Orleans kicker Shayne Graham calmly ends the Eagles season with a last-second field goal, then botches both attempts the next week against Seattle. Is it asking too much for opponents to choke in big games against our teams, and not the following week? **ANGELO CATALDI**

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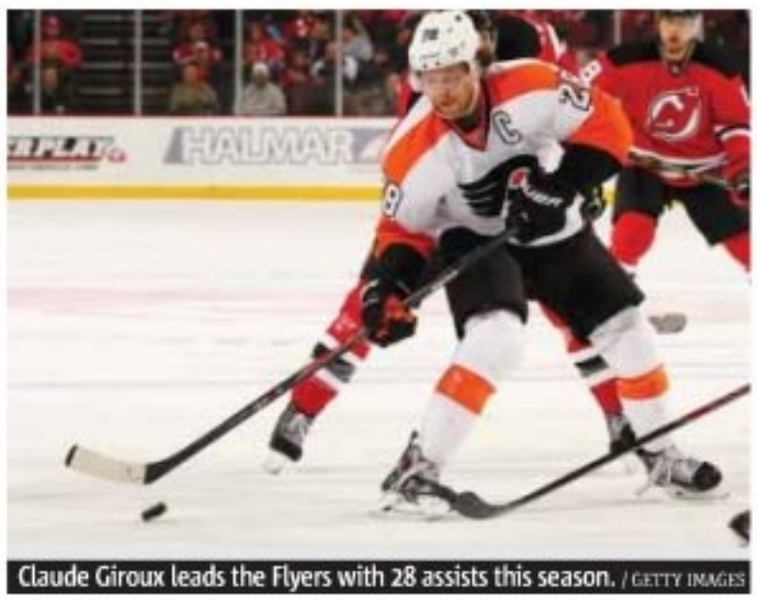
Flyers head to Buffalo looking to return to form

NHL. The Flyers hope to get back on track against the Sabres Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.



Claude Giroux leads the Flyers with 28 assists this season. / GETTY IMAGES

It wasn't long ago that Flyers fans were feeling on top of the world.

Ten straight wins at home, a 5-1 road trip and second place in the Metropolitan conference made the Flyers one of the hottest teams in the NHL.

But that seems like ages ago. In back-to-back losses this past weekend, the Flyers allowed 10 goals total, first in a 6-3 loss to the Lightning on home ice, and then a 4-1 loss to the Rangers at Madison Square Garden.

The goaltending, led by Steve Mason, became one of the Flyers' strengths during their recent hot streak, but it seems to be falling off and must return to form.

The Sabres, Philadelphia's next opponent, have struggled all season long, as proven by their 13-26-5 mark. The team has gone to overtime in five of the last six decisions and has been unable to find its offense.

The Flyers have been red hot on offense, even with the goaltending blip against New York and Tampa this weekend.

Claude Giroux is in midseason form with 41 points this season to lead the Flyers.

EVAN MACY
evan.macy@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

Phillies sign Cedeno

The Phillies announced the signing of veteran infielder Ronny Cedeno, Fox Sports' Ken Rosenthal reported Monday. The 30-year-old utility man signed a minor league deal, and the journeyman will attempt to make the team in spring training. Cedeno has played for six other big league clubs, most recently with the Astros and Padres. METRO

Foles in Hawaii

Nick Foles named a Pro Bowler

It turns out the Eagles will have two representatives in the Pro Bowl.

When the Seahawks defeated the Saints to advance to the NFC title game Saturday, a spot opened up for a sixth quarterback which was filled by first alternate Nick Foles.

Foles will join LeSean McCoy in the Jan. 26 exhibition game in Honolulu. Jason Peters declined his invitation to be the third participating Eagle. **EVAN MACY**

Titans find coach

Titans to name Whisenhunt as head coach

According to reports, former Chargers offensive coordinator Ken Whisenhunt will take over as Tennessee's next head coach. **METRO**

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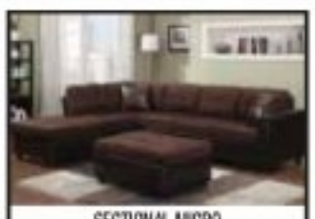
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Reg. 49.50, after 1pm: 27.99. **Only at Macy's.** From Club Room and Alfani. ★ WebID 930869.

DOORBUSTER
65% OFF
SLEEPWEAR
Doorbuster 22.75-26.25. Reg. $65-$75, after 1pm: 32.50-37.50. From Club Room and more.

DOORBUSTER
75% OFF
CLEARANCE
Doorbuster 17.25-42.25. Orig.* $69-$168, after 1pm: 24.15-58.88. Dresses from favorite makers. Misses & petites.

DOORBUSTER
69.99
WARM COATS
Reg./Orig.* $195, after 1pm: $78. **Only at Macy's.** Wool-blend & down selections from Nine West and more. Misses.

DOORBUSTER 20% OFF REGULAR & SALE PRICES

ON SELECT ITEMS FOR HER, HIM & KIDS

DOORBUSTER
50% OFF
SPORTSHIRTS
Doorbuster 24.50. Reg. $49, after 1pm: 29.99. **Only at Macy's.** Woven & knit styles from Club Room and Alfani. ★ WebID 1119550.

DOORBUSTER
EXTRA 20% OFF
FASHION ATHLETIC SHOES FOR HER
Doorbuster 27.99-158.40. Reg. $40-$198, select styles after 1pm: 34.99-189.99. Easy Spirit, Keds (★ WebID 564801), G by GUESS (★ 837255), more.

DOORBUSTER
BUY 1, GET 1 FREE CLEARANCE ACCESSORIES
Doorbuster $3-159.60 + 1 free. Orig.* $12-$228 ea., after 1pm: $3-159.60 ea. Scarves, hats, belts & more for her.

DOORBUSTER
2 FOR 24.99
BRAS
Reg. $32-$38 ea., after 1pm: buy 1, get 75% off 2nd. Maidenform®, Bali®, Warner's® & Playtex®. Shown: Maidenform® One Fabulous Fit. ★ WebID 574131.

DOORBUSTER
49.99
DIAMOND EARRINGS
Reg. $200, after 1pm: $75. 1/2 ct. t.w.‡ rose-cut in sterling silver (★ WebID 1057517) or 18k gold over sterling silver (★ 1057518) by Victoria Townsend.

DOORBUSTER
$199
GARNET & DIAMONDS
Reg. $600, after 1pm: $270. Ring (★ WebID 224629) or pendant (★ 1139360) in 10k gold. Also in amethyst (★ 224632), blue topaz (★ 280158) or aquamarine (★ 367785).

DOORBUSTER
40% OFF
BLENDERS & FOOD PROCESSORS
Doorbuster 23.99-257.99. Reg. 39.99-429.99, after 1pm: 29.99-299.99. From left: Cuisinart, #DLC2007 & EuroPro Ninja, #NJ600.

DOORBUSTER
40% OFF
COFFEE, TEA & ESPRESSO MAKERS
Dcorbuster 17.99-767.99. Reg. 29.99-1279.99, after 1pm: 19.99-899.99. From left: Cuisinart #DCC1200, Black & Decker #KE2000SD & Nespresso #D121-US -BK-NE1.

DOORBUSTER
60% OFF MEMORY FOAM
Doorbuster 15.99-319.99. Reg. $40-$800, after 1pm: 19.99-479.99. Pillows & mattress toppers by our Martha Stewart Collection™, SensorGel & more. ★ WebID 139387.

DOORBUSTER
39.99 ALL 8-PC. BED ENSEMBLES
Reg. $100, after 1pm: 59.99. **Only at Macy's.** By Fairfield Square Collection. Full-king. Shown: Davenport. ★ WebID 616362. Twin also available.

DOORBUSTER
29.99 53-PC. FLATWARE SET
Reg. $80, after 1pm: 49.99. Service for 8 from International Silver. From top: Capri Frost (★ WebID 402325) & American Bead (★ 244574).

DOORBUSTER
99.99
5-PC. SET
Reg. $300, after 1pm: 149.99. **Orly at Macy's.** Tag Coranado spinner luggage. ★ WebID 325390.

FREE SHIPPING AT MACYS.COM WITH $99 ONLINE PURCHASE. NO PROMO CODE NEEDED; EXCLUSIONS APPLY.

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